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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Mark J. Burzynski et al : GROUP ART UNIT: 3763
SERIAL NO.: 09/360,877 :
FILING DATE: July 23, 1999 : EXAMINER: D. Blyveis
TITLE: SELF-BLUNTING NEEDLE MEDICAL :
DEVICES AND METHODS OF :
MANUFACTURE THEREOF : ATTY. DOCKET: P-1522-1

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, DC 20231

October 13, 2000

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the office action mailed July 26, 2000 in the captioned application.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Amend the claims as follows.

Cancel claim 40.

Rewrite claims 1, 31 and 39 as follows:

1. (Amended) A self-blunting needle cannula device comprising:

(a) an external component comprising a needle cannula [having an outside diameter, a through-bore] having a through-bore [diameter], a tip comprising a puncture tip, a mounting end, and an external component hub on the needle cannula spaced from the tip;

(b) an internal component comprising an elongate blunting member having a tip defining a blunt tip, and an internal component hub on the blunting member being disposed within the through-bore of the needle cannula;

(c) wherein the external component and the internal component are movable relative to each other between a sharpened configuration in which the blunt tip is positioned short of the puncture tip of the needle cannula to leave the puncture tip exposed, and a blunting configura-